

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 COME-00 EB-11 LAB-06 SIL-01 AID-20 PC-04

OPR-02 NIC-01 RSR-01 /156 W
----- 086820

R 021249 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6363

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY PARIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE OUAGADOUGOU 792

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: ELAB, UV

SUBJ: LABOR DISTURBANCES

REF : OUAGADOUGOU 742

1. "GENERAL STRIKE" CALLED BY OVSL LABOR
FEDERATION FIALED SPREAD BEYOND INITIALLY STRIKING
UNIONISTS. STUDENTS, GOVERNMENT WORKERS AND OTHER
UNIMNS DID NOT JOIN IN. OVSL EFFORT EXTEND STRIKE
BEYOND 48- HOUR PERIOD APRIL 25-26 FIZZLED, AND MAY DAY
PASSED UNEVENTFULLY. THOSE STORES WHICH CLOSED APRIL
25-26 REOPENED QUICKLY, AND PROTECTION OF GOVERNMENT
BUILDINGS REDUCED TO A FEW GUARDS EACH.

2. VITALLY ONLY GROUP NOT RETURNING TO WORK
PROMPTLY WERE TAXI- DRIVERS, WHO HAD SPECIFIC GRIEVANCE
OVER JAILED COMARDE. HE NOW RELEASED, BUT TAXIMEN
BITTER OVER GOVERNMENT DECISION OCCUPT LABOR CENTER
WITH TROOPES, WHO THEN FLATTENED ALL TIRES TO TAXIS
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PARKED THERE, THEY NOW SLOWLY RETURNING TO WORK.
BREAD WAS STILL HARD TO FIND OVER LONG WEEKEND ENDING
MAY 1.

3. QUASI- FINAL DAMAGE REPORTS INDICATE THAT
DOZENS WERE INJURED AND NUMBER WINDOWS BROKEN DOWNTOWN,
BUT NO ONE KILLED.

4. COMMENT: DESPITE ITS BREVITY, STRIKE WAS
INDICATION GENUINE LABOR MALAISE, AND SIMPLISTIC BUT
STRONG DESIRE FOR GOVERNMENT CHANGE ON PART OF MANY.
QUESTION IS BEING ASKED WHETHER GOVERNMENT ACTED PROPERLY
IN SEEKING VOID OVSL ELECTION. STAND- OFF BETWEEN
ELECTED LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNMENT- FAVORED FACTION
CONTINUES. WITH BASIC DISPUTES NOT SETTLED AND
DISSIDENT POLITICAL TRACTS STILL CIRCULATING, WE CAN
ANTICIPATE CONTINUED IF NOT INCREASING INSTABILITY.
EASUM

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NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: willialc
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Disposition Remarks:
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EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> mcm 971113
Subject: LABOR DISTURBANCES
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PARIS
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Type: TE
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